Appl. Serial No. 09/419,475

REMARKS

Applicant notes the Official Draftsman's objections to the drawings and corrected drawings will be submitted in due course.

Claims 36 and 37, based on cancelled claims 26 and 27, respectively, remain in the application. Claims 30-34 having been withdrawn prior to the filing of a divisional application directed to the invention thereof.

Allowance of the represented claims 36 and 37 is courteously solicited for the following reasons.

As recited in claim 36, the present invention has the ability to produce reports that include maps, photographs, illustrations, and other graphical data that can be associated with checkpoints. The association of graphics with the checkpoints makes the claimed invention unique. Guards who are unfamiliar with checkpoint locations can use these reports to locate the checkpoints, reducing wasted time and ensuring the accurate monitoring of the proper locations. Photographs of guards could also be linked to officer buttons to provide a positive identification. As shown in Fig. 10, the user:

> ... selects the type of report 220 from choices including but not limited to incident reports, officer-location reports, officer-incident-location reports, rule exception reports, and other reports. Next the user can set up options such as date range, appearance and filters 222. A data range can be set by specifying "from" and "to" dates between which all patrol data will be included. Report appearance options include but are not limited to such items as company logos, cover sheets, photographs, detailed headings, watermarks, bitmaps, drawings, illustrations, trademarks and patrol statistics in the reports. A user can also select a report style from a list including but not limited to business, classic, and fax. Filters are set to further refine the patrol data inn the reports. With filters, the user can select specific officers, incidents, locations, clients, facilities, groups or other characteristics. Only data appropriate to these selected characteristics are included in the report. (Page 23, lines 12-22).

According to claim 37, the downloading of the gathered information into the data processing system is accomplished _independently_ of the computer program product.

4

Appl. Serial No. 09/419,475

Thus, a separate and independent part or subset of the software permits the segregation of functions like device monitoring, data downloading, and data storage from data processing and reporting functions. This separation of functionality gives the invention some distinct advantages. A small independent program can start automatically and remain active whenever the computer is running. This program monitors downloaders, downloads data, and stores it in the computer. It allows these functions without activation of the data processing and reporting software. This approach eliminates the need to start the entire software package each time a device is downloaded, minimizes the use of computer resources, and allows persons without access or knowledge of the software to download data collection devices. It keeps the data more secure and better utilizes the guards' time. As stated on Page 20, line 22, Page 21, line 4:

> An attendant software program, which will be described below, controls the downloading process. To begin downloading, the attendant computer program is run on the computer 168. The guard tour application does not have to be running at the time a download occurs. This is an advantage over other tour systems because it provides enhanced security.
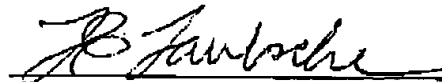
The cited Dividock, et al., patent No. 6,078,255 does not disclose Applicant's ability to provide complex reports as recited in claim 36 or for the downloading to be accomplished independent of the complete program product. Clearly, Applicant's invention provides a new, useful and unobvious improvement over the prior art.

Favorable action is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

3/28 , 2003

Lawrence E. Laubscher, Sr.
EFS Customer No. 30267311
Registration No. 18,202
745 South 23rd Street, Suite 300
Arlington, Virginia 22202
Telephone: (703) 521-2660

L:\LARRY.SR\APPLICAT\19491\AMENDMEN.WPD   5